

Sustainability Brief: U.S. Green Building Council's LEED™ Green Building Rating System

The USGBC LEED Green Building Rating System focuses on a number of design and construction categories which will reduce the building's environmental footprint and have a beneficial effect on occupant health. Though a highly visible and symbolic component of a green building, carpet by itself will not directly result in any LEED points other than for IEQ Credit 4.3; however, carpet may be used in addition to other qualified building materials to help meet some of the other LEED criteria. See the table below for details.

LEED Credit	Carpet Points Available	Interface Modular Carpet Points Available	Interface Products & Services related to the Credit
Energy Credit 1: Optimize Energy Performance	0 ¹	0 ¹	
Materials Credit 1: Building Reuse	0 ²	0 ²	0
Materials Credit 2: Construction Waste Management	0 ³	0 ³	Re:Source Americas can provide a plan to cover carpet waste, however carpet waste (by weight) comprises only a very small portion of total construction waste
Materials Credit 4: Recycled Content	0 ⁴	0 ⁴	0
Materials Credit 5: Local Materials	0 ⁵	0 ⁵	0
IEQ Credit 4.1: Low Emitting Materials - Adhesives	0	0	Interface can contribute to a portion of 1 point for use of Re:Source Technologies brand adhesives.
IEQ Credit 4.3: Low Emitting Materials - Carpet	1 if meet CRI Green Label	1 if meet CRI Green Label	0
IEQ Credit 7: IEQ Thermal Comfort	0 ⁶	0 ⁶	
LEED Innovation Credits	0 ⁷	0 ⁷	0
TOTAL POINTS	1	1	0

- 1 Although carpet provides some insulative characteristics, these points are available only from relative energy efficiency compared to the building modeled at ASHRAE 90.1-1999 or California Title 24 standards.
- 2 This topic focuses on the reuse of buildings and does not apply to carpet purchases - existing carpets in a reused building may contribute to Credit 1.3.
- 3 This topic requires a detailed plan for managing all aspects of waste associated with a building, including building materials and finishes.
- 4 The recycled content credit requires that the sum of all post-consumer and ½ of post-industrial content constitutes at least 5% of the total value of ALL materials used in the project. Carpet's contribution to this credit would be minimal.
- 5 To earn this credit, a minimum of 20% of the building materials must be manufactured within 500 miles of the building project. There would be no case where carpet would comprise 20% or more of the total building materials.
- 6 Although carpet provides some insulative characteristics, it is not significant enough to qualify for this credit.
- 7 Carpet is not considered a significant enough factor in the total building to qualify for innovation points. Refer to LEED credit interpretations at www.LEEDbuilding.org.